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REMARKS

The Office Action mailed January 18, 2007, has been carefully considered together with the reference cited therein. The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. Accordingly, reconsideration of the present Application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

CLAIM STATUS

Claims 1-23 are pending in this Application. Claims 1-18, 20 and 22 stand in condition for allowance.

Claims 19 and 21, and 23 stand rejected under § 102(b). By this Amendment, claims 19, 21 and 23 have been cancelled. In view of this amendment, it is respectfully believed that the Application is in condition for allowance.

As the total number of claims does not exceed the number of claims originally pald for, no fee is believed due. However if an additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 03-2060.

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, the present Application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. If the Examiner disagrees, she is requested to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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